## **Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R' & X \\
R^1 & R & R^1 \\
R^1 & R & R^1
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein

R is H;

Ar is an aromatic group selected from unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substitutents selected from  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl,  $O(C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl),  $S(C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl), halo, and phenyl optionally substituted with halo,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl or  $O(C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl);

X is unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 substituents selected from  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl,  $O(C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl), and halo;

R' is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl;

each  $R^1$  is independently H or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl;

wherein each above-mentioned C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group is optionally substituted with one or more halo atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1, represented by formula II:

$$R_2$$
 $R_3$ 
 $R_4$ 
 $R_4$ 
 $R_4$ 

in which  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are each independently selected from H,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl,  $O(C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl),  $S(C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl), halo, and phenyl; and

R<sub>4</sub> is selected from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl) and halo;

wherein each above-mentioned C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group is optionally substituted with one or more halo atoms;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 3. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein  $R_2$  is selected from  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl,  $O(C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl),  $S(C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl),  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl group is optionally substituted with one or more halo atoms.
- 4. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, wherein R<sub>3</sub> is selected from H, Me and Cl.
- 5. (Previously presented) A compound as claimed in claim 4, wherein R<sub>4</sub> is selected from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), Cl and F wherein each above-mentioned C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl group is optionally substituted with one or more halo atoms.
- 6-14. (Cancelled)
- 15. (Previously presented) A composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 or 2 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, excipient or carrier.
- 16. (New) A method for treating persistent pain, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound as claimed in Claim 1.